



HELPER & BAKER

NO.9 • APR'88 • \$1.75/\$2.50CAN • SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

THE SHADOW™



BAKER—

SEVEN DEADLY FINNS • Part 2

CHECKMATE #3:

Pulse-pounding first issue! Checkmate—an ultra-secret organization and its super athletes hold agents' next step a brutal war of Chicago bombings! By Paul Kupperberg, Steve Larkin and Al Roy

LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #145:

Special 64-page 30th anniversary issue by Paul Levitz, Mike Gail, Greg LaRocca, Curt Swan, Keith Giffen, Dave Cockrum, Kurt Schaffenberger, Mike DeCarlo and Dick Giordano! Special pointed cover!

HEUBLAZE #4:

Catchphrases mean a kidnapping by a blowup girl—the Resurrection Crusade! By Janice DeLoach and John Ray with a pointed cover by Dave McKean

GREEN ARROW #13:

The USA and China race to find the most dangerous weapon ever—but Green Arrow's already got it! By Mike Gail, Ed Bernazzani and Dick Giordano

BLACKWALK #12:

Second of a three-part Private Fantom noir series: Blackhawk loses his starship and visits the Soviet Moon! By Howard Chaykin with painted covers by Steve Clift and lettering by Ben Kupperberg

NEW TEEN TITANS #12:

Wilderness is back and has leaping STAR! Like up! By Mary Wollman, Ed Bernazzani and Kim DeMott

SHADOW #19:

Introducing Monomaniac! Back—the world's deadliest lawyer whose clock—the Shadow may never be able to forget! By Andy Miller and Kyle Baker

SWAMP THING #71:

Swamp Thing draws the meaning of "Star of Rising" in a tale by Rick Nickle and Alberto Rodriguez

QUESTION #15:

With four people lynched in a month, will the Question discover that the Klan is taking over Ark City or something worse? By Darryl D Noll, Deryn Cowan and Rick Mogro

CINDER AND ASHE #2:

The damage control agents find Eppuradito to a kitchen just evades dark feelings in the present! By Barry Corbin and Jose Luis Garcia Lopez

WINTERLAND #5:

Could Winterland's location be in the DC universe? Discover an answer in the "Big Green Story" with cameo from some unexpected guest! Stories by John Schneider, Bill Olson, David Lloyd, William Messner-Lobitz and Donald Simpson

SPECTRE #13:

The second meaning between spells doom for Joe Corrigan and Kim Liang! By Doug Macrae and Gary Morrow, Cover by Charles Roz

INFINITY, INC. #40:

Enter the Sandman! But is he the Sandman we know or a deadly parallel? By Ray and Dave Thomas, Vince Angellozzi and Tony DeZango

YOUNG ALL-STARS #11:

More on the secret, strange link of Iron Man! By Ray and Dave Thomas, Mike Bar and Malcolm Jones

MEANWHILE...

BY DICK GIORDANO

SUPERMAN, BATMAN, WONDER WOMAN I could probably go right downstairs, right out front of 606 5th Avenue (or I might if I weren't having a New York snowstorm as I write this: A "New York snowstorm" is the kind where the snow falls in a gray mush), and ask people if they know who those three stalwart heroes are. These names have instant recognition. Everybody knows them. Whether they read them in comic books as kids or saw them in their various media incarnations, everybody's familiar with them. They know what they look like, what they stand for, and could even quote from one of their favorite adventures.

That's a great thing about this business. I mention one of those names at a party, and it's an instant icebreaker. Did you know that last year, a guy in a business suit in the deal next to me on the train actually asked me whatever happened to Beppe the Super Monkey? ("He's very happy where he is," I told him.)

Recently, at DC, we've been acquiring the rights to other characters whose names immediately light sparks of recognition or at least nostalgia in the eyes of fans young and old — even people who haven't picked up a comic book in as many as twenty-five years. **THE SHADOW**, for instance. Try that. Say to someone, "Who knows what evil lurks in the heart of man?" You'll get the answer you expect every time. (It really does work. I tried it on the guy who asked me about Beppe the Super Monkey.) In those words, who doesn't know about the cloak, the muffled laugh, the power to cloud one's mind, the loyalty of friend and companion Margo Lane? How many heroes can boast that their radio narration was portrayed by no less a light than Orson Welles? More people know about Mr. Cinnamon laugh than they do about any dead, that's for certain.

STAR TREK. I could go on and on about STAR TREK. Most curiously, how about the self-fulfilling prophecy of naming an American spacecraft after the franchise? Or the fact that "To boldly go where no man has gone before" is not only a cultural institution, but it practically made split infinitives acceptable. (Take that, English teachers everywhere!)

But to put too fine a point on it: Like this, I like having the general public know who we are and what we're doing. Lacking an obscurity in the minds, the offense to our steady fans in mainstreams across the nation, but not only would I miss thousands of manuscripts in the dark hurt my eyesight, but it would do terrible things to my self-esteem. I like having people know who we are, what we're all about. We all work too hard here for our efforts to go unnoticed.

That's the reason, I guess, why I like working with characters that have an immediate catch with the audience out there.

That's the reason, I guess, why we're going to do it again. And again.

FLASH GORDON. Don't have to say much more than that, do it? Ming the Merciless "Seize them!" Dr. Zarkov "Flash . . . we'll give you up for dead!" Dale Arden, "You'll never get away with this!" The Planet Mongo. "It's Prince Garts of the Three Moons!" If Flash, along with his creator, Alex Raymond, didn't create the adventure novel, he certainly perfected it. The vivid images and complete conquest by just the name: Flash Gordon are every bit as vibrant in my memory as when I read them as a child. (In the station. The late station. Yeah, that's the ticket. . . .)

So we've acquired the rights to bring him to you, again. DC style.

For this journey, Dan Jurgens has signed on as both writer and penciler. That's got a responsibility, inheriting Alex Raymond's mantle. But if Dan's ability to keep a book, lively story in the air on **BOOSTER GOLD** as my indication, Flash has an exciting time ahead of him.

Backstopping Dan will have to be Bruce

Timmons. Bruce needs no intro to anybody who's seen his work on **GREEN LANTERN CORPS** or on **CAMBLOT 2000**. (If you missed the latter the first time around, the whole series will be collected into a single trade paperback volume. To paraphrase the slogan of a local baseball team, this is coming like it oughts to be.)

I don't want to give you the impression that we're going to quit while we're ahead. No way. We've needed the Ring Features stable for another one of their great heroes, a hero who's stood the test of time. (Not Barry Bero, nee Barry.)

THE PHANTOM

The Ghost With Whiskers

We talk again, in a brand new series of scripts by Peter David. If you don't know Peter's work by now, I really don't know where you've been. He's maintained a number of major series at both DC and Marvel and he's managed to distinguish himself on all of them.

Peter's work will be aided and abetted by someone we can truly say is a comic book great . . . and has been for the past forty years! I'm talking about Joe Orlando, who's going to come down the hall and crack me for that "forty years" thing! Joe tells me he hasn't had this much fun drawing anything in years! He's a natural for the series, too, as far as I'm concerned. After all, wasn't he the genius and genius Joe behind the world-renowned **TALES OF THE BLACK FREIGHTER** series? (That's not an "in" reference for fans of the **WATCHMEN**. If it startled you, don't scratch your head. Pick up a copy and see for yourself.)

(By the way, speaking of **WATCHMEN**, wait till you see Dave Gibbons' work over Joe's pencils for the **PHANTOM** covers. Maybe we'll revive that **TALES OF THE BLACK FREIGHTER** someday. If we could only find that Max Shea guy. . . .)

Come to think of it, I hope I haven't intimidated poor Steven Janke, who's inked Joe's pencils. I wouldn't want to scare the guy off, or he might start complaining that he's being followed by a mysterious man in a trenchcoat named "Mr. Walker."

To wrap yourself up for the premiere of **THE PHANTOM**, you might want to check out Joe's work on the most recent **SHADOW ANNUAL**. That is, if you can still find a copy at your local store.

There's no hero like **THE PHANTOM**. A legend as current for more than a half-century. A legacy in the annals of story-telling. An invention that's had many imitators but few equals.

And guess what? We've got him.

This could very well start a trend, you know. This business of acquiring the rights to famous characters of the past and giving them a DC spin. It's a DC tradition that extends as far back as **PLASTIC MAN** and **BLACKWALK** and reaches to our recent legacy with the Charlton heroes: **BLUE BEETLE**, **THE QUESTION**, **THE PLACEMAKER**, **CAPTAIN ATOM**—not to mention **Nightshade** in the **SUBURB SQUAD**.

Which leads me to my question for this week. Got any ideas for DC versions of time-honored, well-remembered heroes? Yes, even one that already are currently in the DC universe. I'll throw the floor open to you, and I look forward to your suggestions.

Until then.

Thank you and good afternoon.

Dick

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THEN YOU *DO* UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS YOU'VE DONE, LARRY...?

ACCORDING TO YOUR *COPY* ACCOUNT, YOU'VE KILLED OVER *TWO DOZEN* PEOPLE.



OH, SURE, DOCTOR, AND I REMEMBER EVERY ONE OF THEM.

I EVEN MADE A *LIST*... BUT I GAVE IT AWAY.



I... SEE...

THE *LIST*. EXACTLY *WHO* DID YOU GIVE IT TO...?

RED. I GAVE IT TO *RED*. JUST TO KEEP MY ACCOUNTS STRAIGHT.

I *USED* TO BE AN ACCOUNTANT, YOU KNOW...



YES, LARRY. WE ALREADY WENT OVER THAT.

NOW THIS *RED*. THE MAN YOU SAY *TOLD* YOU TO KILL. CAN YOU *DESCRIBE* HIM...?

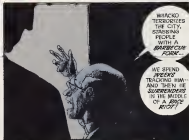
I DON'T *THINK* SO, DOCTOR. BUT I BET I CAN DRAW A PICTURE...



THAT WOULD BE *NICELY*, LARRY...

CHRIST, MAN-- ALL THAT NAMEY FINEY *SHALL* TALK!

MAKES A MAN WANT TO *FUCK*!



WHACKO TERRORIZES THE CITY, SCARES PEOPLE WITH A *BARBERSHOP* FORM...

WE SPEND *WEEKS* TRACKING HIM-- AND THEN HE *SURRENDERS* IN THE MIDDLE OF A *BOSS* RUSH!



IN THE *OLD DAYS* WE'D TAKE THAT PSYCHO INTO *INTERROGATION*. YOU'D NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!

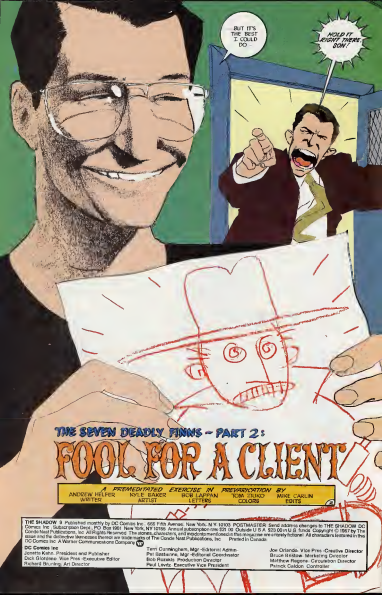
TODAY, IT'S ALL *DIFFERENT*. YOU GOT YOUR *DOCTORS*... AND YOUR *JUDGES*... AND YOUR *LAWYERS*... THEY'RE THE *WORKS*...

I THINK I'M *FUCKING*, DOCTOR.



I'M SORRY. IT'S NOT SO GOOD...

I WAS NEVER MUCH OF AN ARTIST...



THE SEVEN DEADLY FINNS - PART 2:

FOOL FOR A CLIENT

A PREMEDITATED EXERCISE IN PREPARATION BY
ANDREW HELPER WRITER
KYLE BAKER ARTIST
BOB LAPPAN LETTERS
TOM TRUKO COLORS
MIKE CARLIN EDITS

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CHRIST...
HIDEAWAYS BACK,
WOULDN'T YOU JUST
AWAY IT...

THE CITY'S **SENIORST**
DEFENSE ATTORNEY--
HE REPS **ANDREWS**
FOR FORTUNE AND
LEGIONS FOR FAME.

BEEN LEANING
TOWARDS THE
CRAZIES LATELY,
SIR-- HE'S GOT
FIVE CASES
ENTERED IN THE
COURT DOCKET--
ALL INVOLVING
ALLEGED
HOMICIDAL
KILLERS.

AND NOW
HE'S TRYING TO
PIN THAT ONE
ON THE
MASTER...

THAT'S ALL
FOR NOW, BOYS--
WE'LL GET
BACK TO YOU
WHEN OUR
BRIEF'S ARE
READY...

THANKS,
BY-- YOU
TAKE CARE
NOW--

--MAKE SURE
NOT TO PLUMP
YOUR BACK ON
LARRY THERE--
YOU NEVER KNOW
IF HE'S GONNA--

HEY--
LOOK!

IT'S
INSPECTOR
CARDONA!

ON
CHRIST.

TAKE IT EASY, SIR--
CHIEF MARK IS **AWAYING**
HAD OVER THE WAY YOU
HANDLED THE PRESS
THE OTHER DAY--
AND REMEMBER
YOUR HEART--

I KNOW,
I KNOW, SO
LET'S GET THE HELL
OUT OF HERE
BEFORE--

HUNG ON,
INSPECTOR--
WE'VE
GOT A FEW
QUESTIONS--

--CARE
TO COMMENT
ON
MISTER **BACH'S**
ALLEGATIONS--

--THAT
THE POLICE
HAVE
ADMITTED
A CONFESSION
OUT OF HIS
CLIENT--

--AND THAT
YOUR DEPARTMENT
IS **COVERING UP**
THE **SHADOW'S**
INVOLVEMENT--?

NOW LOOK,
BOYS-- WE
HAVEN'T BEEN
SEEING
EYE-TO-EYE
LATELY--

--AND MY **PHYSICIAN'S**
BEEN TELLING ME TO
TAKE IT EASY--
KEEP THE BLOOD
PRESSURE
DOWN--

-- SO I'M
GOING TO KEEP
MY **SHADOW** DOWN
AND TURN YOU OVER
TO MY ASSISTANT--
MAX PLEVISION.
HE'LL BE HAPPY TO
ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS--

MAX--?

MAX--?

YEAH,
LOBELEY-- THAT'S
RIGHT-- THE **MASTER**--
SEE IF YOU CAN GET
IN TOUCH WITH
ABRAHAM, LET HER
KNOW--

SORRY, HON, BUT
SHE'S OVER IN THE
BARR-- SEEMS
EVERYONE IS
TODAY--

WELL, THAT'S
JUST GREAT--
LOOK, I GOTTA
GO AND GET
BACK TO JOE
BEFORE HE--

--AND
GET THE HELL
OUTTA
MY FACE!!

--EXPLODES--

OH, YEAH, WAHVS...
THIS IS JIMMY...
WAS ON CRIME...
WE'RE HAVING... FROM
THE ROOMS OF
CENTRAL
PARK...

SAY, I SPOTTED A
PAIR OF FLASHERS
AN HOUR AGO...
THINK THE MASSES'LL
WANT TO KILL
THEM, OR...

WHEEE!



JEEZ!



FLORIE WHAT'S
GOING ON--?
ARE YOU--

FINE,
WAHVS--IT'S
JUST THE BATS
PLACE IS
CRAWLING
WITH 'EM...



IT GETS WORSE
AFTER DARK-- THEN
THEY REALLY
COME OUT--

THANKS,
WAHVS...

LET'S HOPE
OUR TARIFF
ARRIVES BEFORE
THEN... YOU HEAR
FROM DWITT
LATELY--?



HE'S SUPPOSED
TO BE RUNNING
INTERFERENCE
FOR THIS OPERATION...
BUT MOST OF THE
TIME, HE'S THE
INTERFERENCE.

Y'KNOW, ELL--
JUST 'CAUSE YER
AHEAD AT ME
AIN'T NO REASON
TO SQUALOR
MY
REPUTATION!



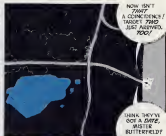
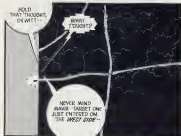
YEAH, WELL,
JUST HURRY IT
UP, DWITT--
WE HAVEN'T GOT
ALL NIGHT--

YEAH, SURE...
I WILL GET
DAYTERAWN' Y'KNOW



JOE
LIKE GUS
REMINDS ME
OF MY HIGH SCHOOL
DAYS





WHAT IS--? YOU HEAR THAT, SID? SOUNDED LIKE SOME KIND OF EXPLOSION!!

MAYBE IT'S A GROSS-- I NEVER TRUSTED THAT FINN GUY-- SETTING UP A DROP IN CENTRAL PARK--

FRANK, FRANK... THE DOCKS ARE TOO HOT TO TRADE ANYMORE! THIS MAKES SENSE! NO ONE'LL THINK TO LOOK HERE--!

I'D JARGUP IT WAS SOME KIND OF EXPLOSION-- SOUNDED LIKE A CLAYMORE, OR --

DON'T SWEAT IT, LEON-- PROBABLY A GAS BLOWN OR SOMETHING I MEAN... THIS IS NEW YORK CITY, RIGHT?

THINGS EXPLODE HERE ALL THE TIME...

I DON'T KNOW, SID. FRANK'S TOO FAR AWAY FOR ME-- DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE UNLESS--

KATHUNK

WHAT WAS THAT?

STOP BEING SO ANNOY, FRANK! REARANCH HIT THE ROOF, THAT'S ALL--

--LOOK-- THAT MUST BE FRANK!

MAN... SIX GROSS AMELI... NO 57%... IMPACTED DIRECTLY FROM SPAIN... THREE GROSS BULLPUP WASTE FROM FINLAND... WE'LL MOVE 'EM THROUGH THE CLUB IN NO TIME--

--TURN A SIX HUNDRED PERCENT PROFIT OVERNIGHT!

MISTER FINN-- THAT LOOKS LIKE THEM!



YOU SID?



YEAH, YOU ARTIMUS FINN?

THAT'S RIGHT, SAILOR! MONEY'S ALL HERE, JUST LIKE WE AGREED.

FIRST, THOUGH, I'D LIKE TO CHECK OUT YOUR --



HAHAHAHAHAHA

--GROSS--

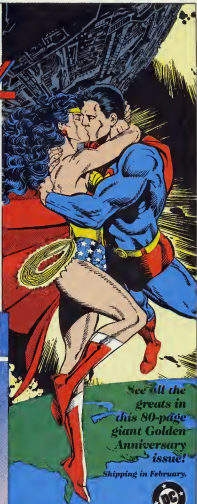


*Fifty years of
Superman in*

ACTION
COMICS

**Join Superman
& Wonder Woman
and John Byrne
& George Pérez**

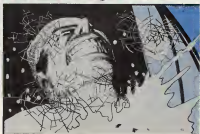
as well as Curt Swan,
Murphy Anderson,
Mike Mignola, Kevin
Maguire, John Beatty,
Walt Simonson, Mike
Zeck, Jerry Ordway,
Karl Kesel, Kurt
Schaffenberger and
other top talents as DC
COMICS celebrates the
Man of Steel's fiftieth
birthday!

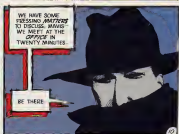


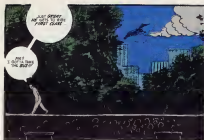
*See all the
greats in
this 80-page
giant Golden
Anniversary
issue!*

Shipping in February.









JUST BEING
AN IDIOT TO MEET
FIRST CLASS

AND I
GOTTA BEAT
THE BOSS



JEEZ... STINKS
LIKE A FART
IN HERE...

BUT
WHILE I'M IN DA
ANYWHEREWOOD

...MIGHT
AS WELL
GET SOME
GUINNESS
GRUBS

AWH HERE'S
THE PLACE...
BEST DOD
MONEY C'D
BUY.



THE BOSS
WON'T MISS ME
FEEL AN ANGLER
AT LEAST... LET IT
KEEP 'EM BUSY
WID SOME
SAND AN EMER
TOLL I GET

OWWWW!

JUSH BUT
INNA
DAMN DANCE

BURNED
MUN TOO
DAMNIT!



DONNY-I GAWD
I'M GONNA SHUT
YOU GUNNY- SHOOT
AS I GET DASH
DASH TING
OUTTA MY
MOUTH?

WARD
SHOO PUD
INNA THESE
FARMERS
ENNYWAY

ROCKE,
OR...



NOPE...

...IN A
DIAMOND?

I'M
RISH!



I'M RISH!

I'M RISH!

I'M RISH!

I'M RISH!

UWN
GAWD
TWO DASH
IF Y'DONT
MIND

JUST
DO ME A
FANCY
MADE 'EM
LIKE AND,
GAWD?



HEY--
AREN'T YOU
PLANNING TO WAIT
FOR MARIO AND
HARRY--?

NOT
TO MENTION
DEWITT-- HE'S
ON HIS WAY
FOR *SURE*!

WE'LL
DEAL WITH *THEM*
LATER, RIGHT NOW,
THERE'S SOMETHING
I WANT TO
SHOW YOU...



WHAT'S
THE *LOGIC*
HERE, MASTER--
WHERE WE
GOING--?

LITTLE
LATE
FOR A
PICNIC...

IN A *MOMENT*, ELTON,
IT WILL *ALL* COME *CLARE*.



THERE, GO AHEAD,
IT'S NOT LOCKED.

I *ALREADY*
TOOK CARE OF IT.

INTERBORO
OFFICE
CLEANING
SUPPLY



NOT BAD-- WOULDNT
MIND GETTING
THE *NUMBERS* OF
THEIR
DECORATION.

BUT THIS IS
ENTIRELY AND
ENTIRELY--
DEFINITELY NOT
YOUR *STYLE*,
MASTER--

SO, WHAT'S THE
STORY HERE--
THOSE
PLACE IS
THIS...?



IT BELONGS TO THE
FINN FAMILY...

UNTIL
THE OTHER NIGHT,
THEY WERE *HERE*
REGULARLY.



HERE? RIGHT
BELOW
US?

YOU KNEW
ALL ALONG?

OF COURSE.

AND
YOU DIDNT
TELL US?
WE'VE BEEN
TRYING TO TRACK
THOSE GUYS DOWN
FOR *YEARS*!

ALL THAT
WORK--AND
YOU JUST
LET US *DO IT*?
WHY?



PERHAPS TO *POINT OUT* THE *OTHER*
SEVERE LIMITATIONS OF THIS GROUP.

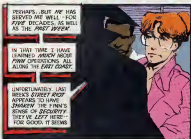
UNLIKE OUR *TRANSFORMER*
QUARRY, THE *FINNS* HAVE
NO *FULL* RECORDS.
THEREFORE, HAVENS, YOU AND
LEONARD'S COMPUTER ACCESS
IS VIRTUALLY *WORTHLESS*.

NOW JUST
A SECOND.



MY LITTLE EXPERIMENT HAS
PROVED EXACTLY
HOW *WORTHLESS*.
NONE OF YOU COULD
TRACK DOWN THE *FINN*--

--BESIDE THE FACT
THAT THEY WERE
RIGHT
UNDER YOUR NOSES.



"BUT FIRST, I BELIEVE I'LL
SEE WHAT'S BECOME OF
MARGO..."



WOULD
YOU JUST
LOOK AT THIS!
HALF PAST TEN
AND THEY'RE
STILL NOT
HERE!

YONISELY,
MARGO--YOU
WONDER WHY?
MAY HAVE BEEN
THE POLICE WOULD
RETURN YOUR
JOHN--

--SO WHAT
IF THEY'RE A
FEW MINUTES
LATE?

SO WHAT IF
WE'RE DEAD
TO GET GOING,
MARGO--YOU KNOW
THE ANSWER
DESPITE
TARDINESS--!

YES, I DO
MARGO VINCINI!
AND WE WOULDN'T
WANT TO LOSE
THE ANSWER NOW,
WOULD WE?



MARGO--I'VE BEEN
THINKING ABOUT US
LONG AND HARD
LATELY--AND
I'VE COME TO A
CONCLUSION

WE BOTH KNOW
WHO COMES FIRST
IN YOUR LIFE--
AND IT ISN'T
ME!

YOU
MAY BE HIS
ARENT--BUT
I FEEL LIKE I'M
HIS FATHERFIGER!
I CAN'T STAND
BEING NEAR
HIM--

--SO, I THINK IT'S TIME
WE JUST LOOKED AT IT
REALISTICALLY
AND CALLED IT
GUTS

I'LL
GO BACK TO
WESTCHESTER
AND THE LIFE OF A
WEALTHY SOCIALITE
WIDOW AND YOU
CAN GO BACK TO
DOING
LAW...

WHATEVER
IT IS
YOU DO,
WITH HIM.



PLEASE,
MARGO--
YOU'RE
NOT BRING
FIRE!

I WANTED
TO GO ON
VACATION--I
EVEN ASKED HIM
TO ALLOW US
A LEAVE OF
ABSENCE--

THESE YOU GO
WITH THAT
"G" BUSINESS
AGAIN!



I DON'T
WORK FOR HIM--
WILL YOU EVER
GET THAT THROUGH
THAT BOMB HEAD
OF YOURS?!

I COULD TRY--
I EVEN THINK
I COULD
MANAGE IT--



--BUT YOU'VE
GOT TO SEE
THAT HE NEEDS ME--
WE SAID SO!

AND
WITH THOSE
NASTY JUNKS
RUNNING LOOSE--
AND THE WAY
THOSE HOOKERS
DESTROYED MY
JOHN--

HONK
HONK



AH!
THERE
THEY ARE
NOW!



THE ULTIMATE
SUPERMAN TEAM
BRINGS YOU THE ULTIMATE
SUPERMAN STORY!

SUPERMAN **THE EARTH STEALERS**



A 48 PAGE ONE-SHOT
PRESTIGE FORMAT
BY JOHN BYRNE
CURT SWAN AND JERRY ORDWAY
SHIPPING IN JANUARY



RUNNING
FROM THE DEMONS
THAT HAUNT HIM.

FLEEING
FROM THE EVIL
IN HIS SOUL.

THIS TIME,
HE FIGHTS
ALONE...



J.M. DeMATTEIS
MARK BADGER

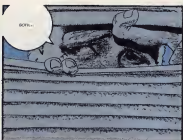
A NEW FORMAT
FOUR-ISSUE MINI-SERIES
STARTING IN JANUARY

MARTIAN MANHUNTER

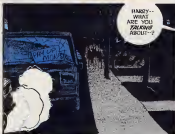
WHO, HADSEY--
THE POLICE--
OR THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY?



BOYS--



HADSEY--
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT--?



THEY THEY--
WELT VE FOLLOWED
THE BOYS
BACK HERE,
MARGO, MY LOVE--

-- THEY
KNOW
WHERE
WE LIVE!

WELL--
THEN YOU JUST
GO OUT THERE
AND TELL THEM
TO GO AWAY!



W-WHAT
DO YOU
KNOW?
FROM
UP??

I-- AN-- I--
YOU BE A
SEY TOX,
MON!

YOU BE
KNOWIN' BOY
I'GORE, MON
PAY ANS TIME
WE GETTIN'
WHAT WE COME
FO'!

PAY UP,
MON-- AFORE
WE GON TAKE
DE SHASTAT
AN' ASURE!



CHRIST, MARGO--
WE'VE GOT TO
GET OUT OF HERE--
THOSE MEN
ARE
CRAZY--!

BUT
WHERE,
HADSEY--?



JUST ONE MORE
SECOND-- I KNOW
I PUT IT
SOMEWHERE
IN HERE--

-- IT'S OUR
BEST
CHANCE--



HADSEY,
HADSEY--
THEY'RE
COMING!







DOT'S IT, PRECY JENNTAH!
WE DON' BAK, 'BROCKEHN!

YOU MEYAN SAY
NOYIN' 'BOUT NO GUN!

TIME TA SPEEET?



GUESS WE SHOWED THEM
WE MEAN BUSINESS...

THEN I PRESUME
THEY'RE GONE,
MARGO MY LOVE?



INDEED! THAT WAS GRUFFE A
PERFORMANCE, MASTER VINCENT!

I KNOW THIS LITTLE
NUMBER WOULD
COME IN HANDY
SOME DAY... STILL,
IT WAS ALWAYS
A BIT LONELY
FOR THE SONGST
BELT...

WELL, IT WORKED,
AT LEAST!
THEY DIDN'T COME
EXPECTING TO GET
DAVID AT -- EVEN
WITH BELANES!



NOW, YOU JUST GET CLEANED UP
AND I'LL TURN OFF
THE JUNKIE MACHINE --
NICE ETERN KUCH,
THAT...

SUCKE
MACHINE?!



MARGO --
I DON'T HAVE
A JUNKIE
MACHINE --

WELL, THEN,
EITHER THE HOUSE
IS ON FIRE,
OR --



--IT'S 'OW--

ENJOY OUR
LITTLE
PERFORMANCE,
MASTER?

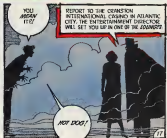
WATCH YOUR ZONE,
MARGO --
I APPRECIATE CHYRISM
LESS AND LESS OF LATE.



BUT YES -- I DID.
YOU TWO MADE A
PINE SHOWING
CONSIDERING YOUR
DECLINING YEARS.

WATCH IT,
RUSSEY --

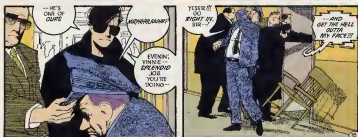
AND SINCE THESE
ATTACKS ON YOU AND
HARRY APPEAR TO BE
OF A DECIDEDLY
PERFORMING NATURE,
I'VE RECONSIDERED
HARRY'S REQUEST
FOR A LEAVE --



YOU
MEAN
IT?

REPORT TO THE COMSTON
INTERNATIONAL, CASINO IN ATLANTIC
CITY. THE ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR
WILL SET YOU UP IN ONE OF THE JOONERS.

NOT DOG!



WHY, ARTIE--
YOU LOOK
FANTASTIC--
ALL THINGS
CONSIDERED.

I
BROUGHT
YOU
A--

SHOOPUP
A MINUT.
WILL YA

DISPITE INSPECTOR
CARDONA'S...RELUCTANCE
TO COMMENT ON THE CASE,
ATTORNEY IV BACH WAS
ANXIOUS TO FILL IN THE
DETAILS ON THIS AND
THREE OTHER ALLEGEDLY
INSANE DEFENDANTS HE
REPRESENTS.

...BUT WAS CALLED AWAY
WHEN ANOTHER OF HIS CLIENTS,
A MEMBER OF THE ALLEGED
UNDERWORLD KOWY FAMILY,
WAS FOUND AT THE SCENE OF A
CENTRAL PARK SHOOTOUT
THIS EVENING...

BACH ASSURED REPORTERS THAT
HIS CLIENT WAS AN INNOCENT
VICTIM, CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE
AS HE JOGGED THROUGH THE
PARK, BUT POLICE HAVE NO CLUE
AS TO WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE DEATHS OF TEN
OTHER REPUTED GANGSTERS.

THEY
DUNNO
WHO?
HUL?

IT WAS THE
SHADOW--
THAT'S WHO!

ARTIMUS--
KEEP
YOUR VOICE
DOWN!

WE KNOW
HOW YOU FEEL--
HOW WE ALL
FEEL--ABOUT THIS
CONFIDENTIAL
INCIDENT--

-- BUT THIS
IS NEITHER
THE TIME,
NOR
THE PLACE
TO EXPRESS IT!

YES--WE PULLED
A LOT OF STRINGS
TO GET YOU IN THIS
PRIVATE ROOM WITH
EVIDENCE--THE COPS
WANTED YOU IN THE
PRISON HOSPITAL
TILL YOU WERE
WELL ENOUGH
TO JUDGE.

MR. BACH
HAS ALREADY
BEGUN WORKING
ON YOUR CASE--
PLAY IT COOL
AND YOU'LL BE
BACK ON THE STREET
IN A FEW WEEKS!

YOU GUYS MUST BE
DENSE!
YOU THINK THIS
WAS SOME KINDA
ACCIDENT?
A CONSPIRACY?

I SHOT HIM
UP THERE, ON TOP
OF THE TRUCK--
HE WAS LAUGHIN'
AT ME--
AT US!

AN' THEN
I HEAR ON THE
TVEEVE,
THEY'RE SAYIN'
HE SENT OUT THAT
FUCKING GUY
TO KILL BRAD!

DON'T YOU GUYS
GET IT? HE'S
TOTALLY COOL--
AND HE'S AFTER
US! WE CAN'T
TREAT HIM LIKE
JUST ANOTHER
CORNER--

WE GOTTA MOVE
NOW--BEFORE
HE PUTS US ALL
IN THE HOSPITAL--
OR THE
MORGUE!

I REALLY
THINK YOU'RE
OVERREACTING
TO THIS, ARTIE!
HERE, HAVE ONE
OF THESE. THEY'LL
CALM YOU
DOWN--

WHIPPED
THEM UP
ARTIE!
JUST
THIS MORNING.



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BEGINNING IN
JANUARY







AND THAT'S ABOUT IT, MISTER MAGNET--

CALL ME DICK.

OHAY, DICK. MY EMPLOYER WANTS INFORMATION ON THE FANN FAMILY: THEIR HOMES, PLACES OF BUSINESS, SOCIAL CLUBS--THE WORKS.

OH HAVE I MENTIONED THAT WE'RE PREPARED TO PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR IT?

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS?

SEE, MISTER MAGNET? YOU'D BE DICK! THEN WE COULD SPEND ALL OUR TIME TRACKING DOWN THE JAHED--

NON NON

JUST GO AND GET THE DOGS, KID.

YOU...UH...LOOKING FOR THE SHADOW?

SWAN, NO IT'S THE JAHED'S THING. HE'S SOME KIND OF CLUB REPORTER, NOT TO DO A SIDIE ON THE GUY.

ME, I DON'T GIVE A PLUDD--

MISTER MAGNET! COME QUICK!!

SO WHAT'S IN THE PACKAGE, HUNT? IS IT, LIKE, A GOLD FALCON? OR MAYBE SOME SECRET DOCUMENTS? OR LIKE A **ANNUUM DOLLARS?** HUH?

NOTHING LIKE THAT, KID.

HE JUST FELL IN WHEN I OPENED THE DOOR! LOOKS LIKE HE'S HURT PRETTY BAD!

AND HE HAD THIS PACKAGE--!

LAY HIM ON THE FLOOR. HE'LL SURVIVE.

IT'S TAKE-OUT DINNER.

LIKE I SAID, THIS IS A **TOUGH NEIGHBORHOOD**.

CAME TO JOIN US, MISS--

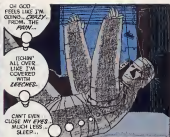
SMITH, AND NO-- I MUST BE GOING.

BEFORE YOU DO, YESS--SMITH-- ONE THING.

WHEN DO I MEET YOUR EMPLOYER?

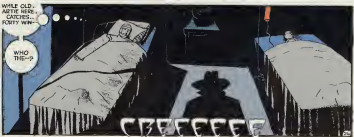
YOU *DON'T* HE WISHES TO REMAIN **UNKNOWN**.

BESIDES, HE'S NOT AROUND VERY MUCH--





WHILE OLD ARTIE HERE... CATCHES... FORTY WINK...





CHRIST!
THAT WAS
NEAR!!

HE JUST
WALTZED IN--
AND SHOT
ESSEL!

HE
MURDERED
MY
BROTHER--



-- BUT IT
COULD'VE
BEEN
WORSE!!

WELL,
HE AND HIS
GARNICE--
AND HE
BLOW IT!

NOW IT'S
MY
TURN.



ALL
FORWARD,
FATHER?

I AM NEVER FINISHED!
HSU-TSE-- YOU SHOULD
KNOW THAT BY NOW.



HOWEVER--
FOR TONIGHT,
I AM.

GATED..

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are evil men,
good men
cannot
turn away.



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